

1-1945

# Trinity Flash Newsletter, January 1945

Genevieve Mouw

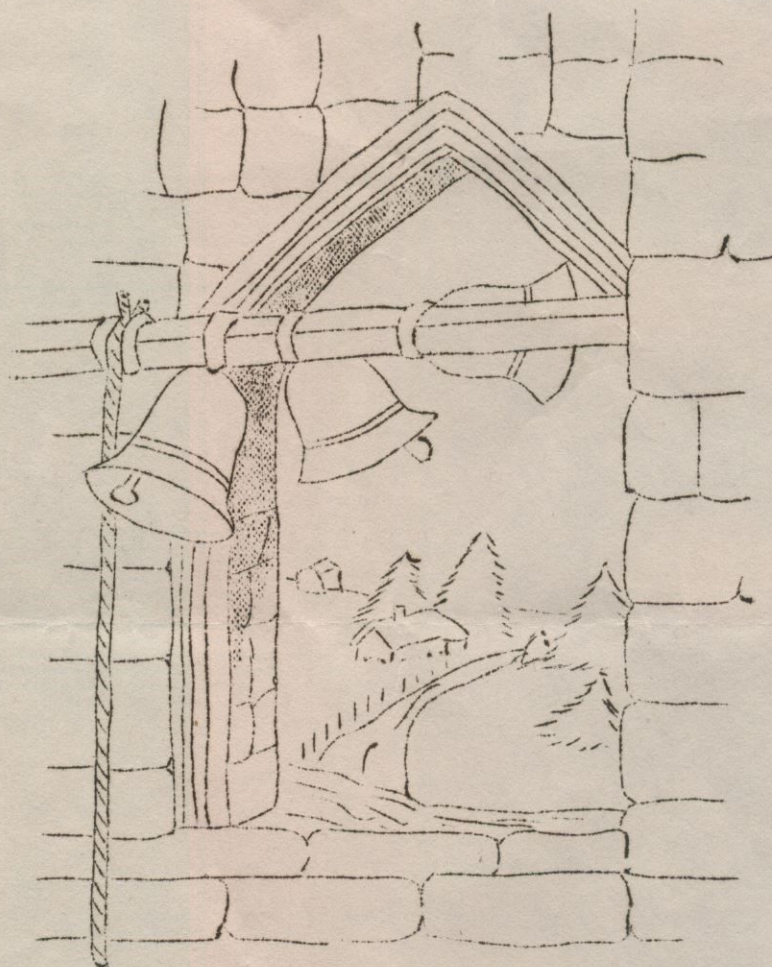
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# TRINITY FLASH

JANUARY, 1945



Ring Out The Old, Ring In The New

"Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite,  
Ring in the love of truth and right  
Ring in the common love of good.

"Ring in the valiant man and free  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be."



Jan. '85

# NEWS ABOUT SERVICEMEN:

Pvt. Paul Muyskens is located in Camp Fannin, Texas. For the past five weeks he has been in the hospital, but he will soon be back on duty.

Cpl. Harvey De Kock is still in Florida giving instruction in Radar school. June and son Donald are with him. They spent part of Christmas day on the beach and took a swim in the Atlantic Ocean.

Alfred Aalberts Rdm 3/c is aboard the attack troop transport, U.S. Cecil.

Merlyn W. Kraai PhM 3/c is aboard the U.S.S. Rockwall. The Rockwall was commissioned on January 14. His wife attended the service. Gertrude says, "Mert showed me around the ship afterward, especially the hospital part where he has been assigned work in the laboratory."

Sgt. Albert J. Heemstra has left New Guinea, but at present his destination is unknown. Several of the soldiers recently received a pass to a native village. The tour proved most interesting. He also experienced an earthquake, and he said it felt like he was standing on a boat.

Lt. Elwin Muilenburg in his letter tells of how a German soldier they had taken captive said, "You Americans are making our Christmas very miserable", whereupon one of our German speaking men becoming very angry told him off as to who was making whose Christmas miserable.

Capt. Ralph Mouw's letters are again coming from Belgium. He states that his Christmas present to 43 Privates was their promotion to Private First Class.

Lt. and Mrs. J.L. Foreman are still at Liberal, Kansas awaiting orders. They were home on an emergency leave at Christmas time to bring the baby home.

Pvt. Gerard Mulder is with the Transportation Corp. He and the other men in his crew operate a small boat. They ferry officers and men across San Francisco Bay.

Pfc. Roy J. Lubbers talked to his brother Willard over the telephone a couple of weeks ago. They have not seen each other for over three years and they missed seeing each other by one month.

Pfc. Donald Foreman writing from Belgium tells of a Christmas service a few of the boys held by themselves. They read the story of Christ's birth, sang some carols, and each offered silent prayer. He writes, "That little service seemed to make Christmas Day more real even though shells were going over our heads and landing close all day."

Mr. & Mrs. John Groen, Ann and Douglas went to see A/S Calvin Groen stationed at Norman, Oklahoma.



The three Heemstra brothers are nearing the completion of their respective courses. A/S Raymond Heemstra has a couple more weeks at Farragut. Pvt. John Gilbert Heemstra and SOM 3/c Frank Heemstra have completed their respective courses and are awaiting assignment.

Beware Men! A/S Erwin Kraai has had some money stolen from him. (Editor's note -- I thought I heard some tell me that the Navy had all the good men. Apparently they have some of the other kind too).

Sgt. Mike Westra writing from "Somewhere in France" writes this poem --

"Little headaches, little heartaches  
Little griefs of every day  
Little trials and vexations  
How they throng to slow our way  
One great Cross unsure and heavy,  
So it seems to weak our will;  
Might be borne with resignation  
But these many small ones kill.  
Yet all life is made of small things,  
Little leaves make up the trees  
Many tiny drops of water,  
Blending make the mighty seas.  
Let us then not by impatience  
Mar the beauty of the whole  
But for love of all, bear all  
In the silence of our soul.  
Let us pray for Grace Sufficient  
To sustain us through each loss,  
And to treasure each small offering  
As a splinter from His Cross."

We asked S/Sgt. Willard Lubbers to write a letter to his fellow Servicemen. He has been overseas for about 32 months and has now been home on furlough and has again left for Spokane, Washington to await further orders. His letter follows:

Dear Trinity Servicemen:

It has been my great pleasure for the past 30 days to be home here among all our many friends here at Trinity Church. I have been gone from here for over three years and believe me they are the same people that we left and are thinking of.

While I was gone I spent 32 months overseas in the Aleutians- "The land of perpetual wind and horizontal rain". While I was up there I was with the Aviation Engineers and our job was that of constructing runways.

My overseas experience was a little different from the majority of you fellows in that our biggest enemy was the weather. We were under air attack for about one month, but outside of that I saw no other action.

Again I say that it is really lovely to be back here among our friends at Orange City and to see for ourselves how the Trinity folks are backing us in every way.

My hope is that in 1945 all of you can get back here and enjoy the same good times as I have in the past 30 days.

A fellow Trinity Serviceman,

Willard Lubbers



Jan. '45

## CONCERNING OUR PRISONERS OF WAR

Many hearts were relieved and made glad this week when the Beyerfamily received another card from Glenn. This card contained a fifty-word message. Among other personal things Glenn writes - "Write often and tell my friends to write also. Am feeling fine. Give my love to all friends and relatives". The signature in his own handwriting again gave reason for hope.

The Y.G. Mulder family received their last letters from Jim on December 23, 1944. They were written in August. Something of this card was reported in a previous issue of the Flash.

Jim's address is as follows:

Rank and Name: S/Sgt. James W. Mulder  
Prisoner of War. No: 2253  
Camp Name and No: Stalag Luft 3  
Subsidiary Camp No: Stalag Luft 4  
Country: Germany

Glenn's address is as follows:

Cpl. Glenn H. Beyer, Amer. POW  
Military Prison Camp No. 4  
Philippine Islands  
Via - New York, New York.

(The following information is especially for the folks back home who also get Trinity Flash. You men in the service know your own regulations, but for the folks back home this is the essential information.)

Prisoner of War Stationery may be obtained at the Post Office free. The letter should be typewritten or printed in block capitals. Letters written on these forms now require no postage. They should not be dropped in a letter box but handed directly to a clerk in the Post Office. Nothing of a military nature should be written in letters to a prisoner of war. The location of any military personnel should not be disclosed.

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The following were received by Letter of Transfer from the Reformed Church of Newkirk: Mr. & Mrs. John Blom and daughters, Alice Kathrine and Edna Mae. Edna Mae is the wife of Ensign Leon Roggen who is serving in the Navy. We welcomed these as members of Trinity Church last Sunday afternoon.

The new Consistoriesmen who were elected as stated in the December issue were installed the first Sunday in the new year.

Your friends and pastor,  
E. J. O'Brien



## EDITOR'S PAGE

Dear Servicemen:

We meet again by means of Trinity Flash. Each month we can have a fine fellowship through this medium. Although it cannot compare to personal conversation, it is still a fine way to have a chat together when we must be miles apart.

Your letters of appreciation are valued highly. And men, if you have news or some thoughts that you would like to get across to the rest of the men, just include such in your letters and we shall be glad to include the same. For the most part we get the information through personal letters from you, or from your parents, or wives, or friends. Be assured also of this, that we are always trying to be faithful to you men by not relating in the Flash any of those personal things that we believe you would rather not have related. However, if we do make some mistakes sometimes in these matters, please exercise the spirit of forgiveness as fellow Christians.

In 1944 I worked with the C.E. officers who together with other C.E. volunteers put out the Flash. Now another year has dawned and the decision has been made to have a committee of the C.E. in special charge of this work. We have called it the Trinity Flash Staff. It follows:

### The Trinity Flash Staff

Editor-Manager: Rev. R. J. Ongna

Associate Editor: Harriet De Jong

% Cover Sheet: Everlye Muilenburg & Doris Mulder

% Addresses & Mailing: Elene Lubbers

% Stenciling: Thelma Elenbaas

% Mimeographing: Merrill Noordhoff

Together with volunteer reporters and others we hope to present you monthly with this news sheet that we trust will come as a morale builder.

Now that I have completed writing about the official side of this page I should like to chat with you about spiritual values.

The greatest things in the world in any age are spiritual things. God is a Spirit. We are spirits. Our bodies are supposed to be tools of the spirit that rules within us. The center of control in our being is the spirit or the soul that dwells within us.

How important it is therefore that we pay some attention to the condition of our soul! In the midst of the pressure of daily duties we are tempted to starve our soul. If we do not partake of spiritual food daily we are sure to find that our soul is becoming a shriveled up spiritual skeleton within us. No man can live in this world of things and men without becoming more and more like the surroundings if he does not cultivate that thing within him which makes him able to become like God. Our souls are made in His image.

Although we may feel ourselves small and insignificant beings, sometimes almost like a cog in a wheel, we may never lose sight of the fact that we are spiritual beings intended to have fellowship with God the Almighty. Thinking such thoughts we pull ourselves out of the mire and feel God lifting us up and setting our feet upon a rock. Ah! my fellow toilers, if we are Christians then we are "the sons of God". That is not just for men of any one nation but for all anywhere who in repentance and faith turn to Jesus Christ. Friends in the Service, I'll take out my New Testament right now and read I John 3:1-3 asking God to apply its truth to my soul. Will you join me?

Your friend and Pastor,  
R. J. Ongna